

USAID



U. S. AGENCY FOR
INTERNATIONAL
DEVELOPMENT

LAC-IEE-99-32

ENVIRONMENTAL THRESHOLD DECISION

Activity Location : Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti and the Dominican Republic

Activity Title : Hurricane Reconstruction Inter-Agency Agreement with the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)

Activity Number : 598-0862

Funding : \$3.0 million

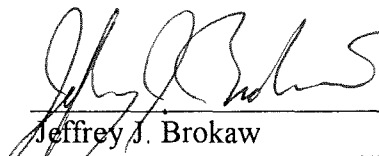
Life of Project : 1999-2001

IEE Prepared by : Eric Fajer, LAC/RSD/Environment

Recommended Threshold Decision : Categorical Exclusion

Bureau Threshold Decision : Concur

Comments:

 Date 7/29/99
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U.S. AGENCY FOR
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Initial Environmental Evaluation

Activity Location	: Honduras, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, and Haiti.
Activity Title	: Hurricane Reconstruction Inter-Agency Agreement with the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Activity Number	: 598-0862
Funding	: \$3 million
Life of Project	: 1999 to 2001
IEE Prepared by	: Eric Fajer, LAC/RSD/Env
Recommended Threshold Decision	: Categorical Exclusion

Program Summary and Description: FEMA will collaborate closely with USAID's Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance (OFDA) in assessing disaster mitigation, preparedness, and response capabilities to identify specific needs for assistance in countries most affected by Hurricane Mitch and Hurricane Georges. The purpose of the activity is to reduce these countries' socio-economic vulnerability to future natural disasters, and enhance their capabilities to respond effectively to natural disasters.

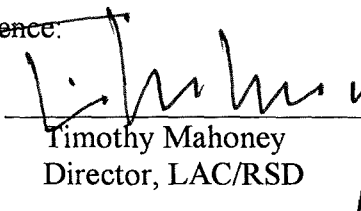
Illustrative approaches include:

- Conduct assessments of the adequacy of national emergency management authorities, plans, and systems, and needs for improving these;
- Conduct hazard identification and risk evaluation assessments to highlight key disasters and areas at risk;
- Review existing government (local, regional, national) emergency management capabilities and existing hazard prevention plans;
- Design information and alert systems;
- Design or augment the capacity of national emergency system operation centers;
- Develop risk maps of the nature and location of key risks;
- Develop community disaster prevention plans;
- Design a strategy for social communications to the public to provide information before, during, and after a disaster;

- Develop national plans for disaster prevention, response, and recovery;
- Provide training in disaster prevention, response, and recovery; and
- Provide training in emergency operations for municipal, provincial, and national agencies.

Recommended Environmental Determination: All activities warrant **Categorical Exclusions** under 22 CFR 216.2(c)(2)(i) -- "Education, technical assistance, or training programs except to the extent such programs include activities directly affecting the environment (such as construction of facilities, etc.)" -- and 22 CFS 216.2(c)(iii) -- "Analyses, studies, academic or research workshops and meetings."

Concurrence.

 DATE 7-28-99
Timothy Mahoney
Director, LAC/RSD

Drafted by: Efajer:7/27/99:U:\rsdpub\ees\hurricane\ees\iee fema.doc